
HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE 2019 HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TEACHER OF THE YEAR, THE 2019 HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION DISTRICT TEACHERS OF THE YEAR, AND THE 2019
HORACE MANN AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE HONOREE.

1 WHEREAS, MATHIEU WILLIAMS joined the Hawai'i Department of
2 Education in 2012 and currently teaches at Kealakehe
3 Intermediate School as the technology and digital media teacher;
4 MATHIEU WILLIAMS led his media students to the 15th Annual
5 Student Television Network National Convention in Nashville to
6 learn from top professionals in media and to participate in
7 contests to hone their media skills, and guided the team to win
8 the 1st place award at the national competition for a Spot
9 Feature and 3rd place award for a Movie Trailer; and

10
11 WHEREAS, SHANE ALBRITTON comes from four generations of
12 Hawai'i public school educators and continues his family legacy
13 by teaching at the School for Examining Essential Questions of
14 Sustainability as a history teacher; SHANE ALBRITTON uses
15 creative and inventive methods in his learning curriculum such
16 as role-playing historical figures to simulate real-life
17 situations in the realm of history; and

18
19 WHEREAS, BRANDON ARAKAWA, a proud public school graduate,
20 has given back to the Hawai'i public school system as a teacher
21 and member of the Kahului Elementary School leadership team;
22 BRANDON ARAKAWA has spent countless hours providing operational
23 guidance for the school, impacting more than 980 elementary
24 school students, and in the past three years, he has contributed
25 to raising student assessment scores each year; and

26
27 WHEREAS, SEAN DOI comes from a family of educators, which
28 inspired him to pursue a career in education; SEAN DOI took on
29 various roles helping children through Kauai county's Program
30 for Afterschool Literacy Support (PALS) and as a resource



1 teacher for the Kauai Complex Area; he also founded the series
2 "Kauai's Shining Stars in Education," which is dedicated to
3 showcasing outstanding individuals, school events, and programs
4 throughout all Kauai public schools; and
5

6 WHEREAS, SAM HANKINS, a science teacher at Kawananakoa
7 Middle School, collaborated with fellow teacher Gary Tani and
8 the Hawai'i Army National Guard to create a Leadership Reaction
9 Course Program that became an annual excursion; SAM HANKINS
10 guided more than 200 students through his 12-obstacle course to
11 help students hone their skills in leadership, teamwork, and
12 trust; and
13

14 WHEREAS, GAIL IZUMIGAWA serves as Director for Career
15 Academies and has pioneered the development of academy programs
16 in Hawai'i, guiding the six thriving academies that cover 24
17 programs of study and reach over 2,500 students including 200
18 students at Waipahu High School; GAIL IZUMIGAWA spearheaded two
19 of Waipahu High School's academies and helped them to become the
20 first in the state to be nationally certified; and
21

22 WHEREAS, MARY ANN KUROSE graduated from the University of
23 Hawai'i at Mānoa with a bachelor's degree in secondary education
24 and embarked on her career at Honoka'a High School which has
25 encompassed the past 22 years; MARY ANN KUROSE volunteers at
26 Response to Intervention classes and creatively uses her 11
27 years of experience with Advancement Via Individual
28 Determination, developing a teaching model that focuses on
29 visual, verbal, and social learning styles and uses Google-based
30 digital tools; and
31

32 WHEREAS, DEBBIE MORROW found her passion and love for
33 teaching after five years of teaching an inclusion class with
34 Head Start and went on to earn a master's degree in early
35 childhood education; DEBBIE MORROW's dedication to improving
36 inclusion opportunities for preschoolers with disabilities led
37 her to apply and receive approval for a state-funded preschool
38 classroom; in addition, she trains other educators through her
39 self-contained class for autism education; and
40

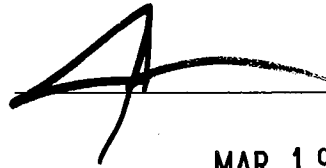


H.R. NO. 212

1 WHEREAS, CYNTHIA TONG has worked in the education system
2 for over 25 years and was recognized in Washington, D.C., as one
3 of the nation's top educators, receiving the Horace Mann Award
4 for Teaching Excellence; CYNTHIA TONG serves on the HSTA's Board
5 of Directors and teaches eighth grade U.S. history at Ewa Makai
6 Middle School; she continually strives to improve education for
7 all the children of Hawai'i; now, therefore,
8

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
10 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of
11 2019, that this body hereby commends, congratulates, and honors
12 MATHIEU WILLIAMS, SHANE ALBRITTON, BRANDON ARAKAWA, SEAN DOI,
13 SAM HANKINS, GAIL IZUMIGAWA, MARY ANN KUROSE, DEBBIE MORROW, and
14 CYNTHIA TONG for their outstanding accomplishments, community
15 involvement, and much-deserved recognition, and extends to them
16 its sincere mahalo and best wishes for continued success in all
17 future endeavors.
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20

OFFERED BY:



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